

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LENING 00888 210735Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 CU-02 SCA-01  
VO-03 /087 W

-----011823 210947Z /13

R 210630Z JUL 77  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3317  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 0 8 8 8

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, CSCE, SREF, UR  
SUBJ: DISSIDENT ROUNDUP

REF: A. LENINGRAD 701, B. LENINGRAD 0003

1. CONGENOFF WAS TOLD JULY 19 BE SVERDLIN'S CLOSE FRIEND, REFUSENIK MARK PEKKER, THAT VLADIMIR SVERDLIN WAS GRANTED EXIT PERMISSION LAST WEEK AND IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART LENINGRAD BY THE END OF THE MONTH. SVERDLIN HAS BEEN A REFUSENIK SINCE JUNE 1974 AND, AS ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL, WAS GIVEN A SUSPENDED SENTENCE THIS SPRING UNDER ARTICLE 218(I) OF THE RSFSR CODE FOR POSSESSION OF A SUPPLY OF BULLETS. SENATOR METZENBAUM IS INTERESTED IN THIS CASE.

2. EMILIA SOTNIKOVA, LENINGRAD EDITOR OF "JEWS IN THE U.S.S.R", DID NOT RECEIVE EXIT PERMISSION AS EXPECTED IN JUNE (REFTEL A) BUT SHE TOLD US JULY 20 THAT OVIR HAS NOW PROMISED HER THAT EXIT PERMISSION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SOTNIKOVA BELIEVES THAT HER EXIT PERMISSION HAS BEEN DELAYED TO ALLOW FOR COMPLETION OF THAT PART OF THE LOCAL INVESTIGATION INTO UNOFFICIAL PUBLI-  
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CATIONS IN WHICH SHE IS INVOLVED.

3. FOR THE RECORD, OVCHINNIKOV NEVER GOT HIS HOPED-FOR PERMISSION TO HOLD AN ART EXHIBITION IN YSUPOV PALACE. THE INSPECTION OF HIS WORKS IN LATE JUNE INCLUDED NOT ONLY THE OBLIGATORY MEMBER OF LENINGRAD'S CULTURAL DIRECTORATE, BUT ALSO THE HEAD OF THE LENINGRAD ARTISTS'

UNION, B.S. UGAROV. UGAROV, WHO IS REPUTED TO BE A REASONABLE MAN, DECIDED THAT OVCHINNIKOV'S PAINTINGS WERE JUST TOO EXPLICITLY POLITICAL. OVCHINNIKOV TOLD US THAT THE CULTURAL DIRECTORATE REPRESENTATIVE WAS AGHAST AT SOME OF HIS WORK BUT THAT UGAROV HAD A NUMBER OF COMPLIMENTARY THINGS TO SAY ABOUT THEIR QUALITY. UGAROV MADE IT PLAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS NO HOPE FOR APPROVAL OF AN EXHIBITION BY REMARKING TO OVCHINNIKOV THAT, "A GOOD ARTIST MAKES A STATEMENT, BUT YOUR STATEMENT IS JUST TOO CLEAR." NEUBERT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISSIDENT FACTIONS, EXIT VISAS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 LENINGRAD 701, 77 LENINGRAD 3  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** DISSIDENT ROUNDUP  
**TAGS:** PINT, SREF, UR, CSCE, (SVERDLIN, VLADIMIR), (SOTNIKOVA, EMILIA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009